

## Lesson II

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There may be but two words in a sentence;  
<sup>Subject &c.</sup>  
the name of the thing spoken of, & that is  
said about the subject.

John writes.

Birds sing.

Mary sings.

We speak of John; we say about him, that  
he writes.

We speak of birds; we say, they sing.

We speak of Mary, we say, she sings.

These words, writes, sing, sings, come out  
<sup>the same</sup>  
of one of the eight groups into which words  
are divided. The words in that group are  
the chief words of all; for this reason, we  
cannot make complete sense, ~~cannot~~  
~~put into words a complete thought, and,~~  
therefore, cannot make a sentence, without  
using one of them.

They are called Verbs, which means  
word; because they are the chief words of  
all.

Every subject must have a verb, and  
the verb serves the subject in three  
ways: -

(1) Alice writes.

The cat meows.

He called.

In these examples, the verb states what the  
subject does.

the

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The subject is the name of the person or thing which does the action.

The verb is the word which expresses the action.

There are many verbs, a verb to express almost every possible action. We may say:-

He falls, slips, runs, trots, throws, pulls, squeals, whistles, cries, laughs, peeps, smiles, carries, &c.

It rains, snows, blows, thunders, freezes, &c.

As the plant grows, thrives, blossoms, droops withers, dies.

(2) But the Verb does not always state what the subject does:-

The carpet is brushed every day.

That cow is milked in the afternoon.

Tom is washed twenty times a day.

The carpet is the subject, but the carpet does not brush; the action of brushing is done to the subject.

That cow is the subject, but the cow does not milk; the action of milking is done to the subject.

Tom is the subject, but Tom is not big enough to wash himself; the action of washing is done to the subject.

These verbs, <sup>like those in (1),</sup> also, express action, but the action is done to the subject.

Many different actions may be done to a single subject. Take 'Baby' for the subject, we may say:-

Baby is washed, is dressed, is nursed, is fed, is rocked, is carried, is dandled, &c.

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Flower-bed  
Or, the ~~garden~~ is weeded, is raked, is planted  
is dug, is sowed.

Mr. Sharp, pinapole is washed, is starched, is dried,  
is ironed, is torn, is stained, is trimmed.

or, Henry is praised, is rewarded, is punished,  
is blamed, is hurt, is whipped, was struck.

(3.) That boy is a scholar.

Flowers are beautiful.

Children are merry.

We are seven.

The verbs in these sentences do not express  
action: they do not <sup>state</sup> ~~show~~ what the subject  
does, or, is done to: they state what the  
subject is.

'A scholar' describes, or tells something about  
'that boy'; and the verb is joins the two  
words together, & makes the statement  
about the boy, ~~declares that~~, that boy is a  
scholar.

Are joins the subject 'flowers,' to the word  
'beautiful,' & makes a statement, or declares  
something, about flowers. Flowers are beautiful.

Are joins 'children' to 'merry,' the word which  
describes them; so we have a statement  
about children.

The subject, 'we,' is joined to the describing  
word 'seven,' by the verb are: thus we get  
a statement about 'we'.

Leave the verbs, is, are, are, are, out of these  
four sentences, and they are no longer  
statements.



Statements, or sentences at all. The boy's  
Scholar-does not make sense, or a sentence:  
we want the verb to show that the subject is.  
~~The verb may show that the verb is something.~~  
He may declare, or state, many things about  
the same subject:-

Frank is funny, is gay, is noisy, is wild,  
is clever, is an idle boy, is eight years old.

Mary was our maid, will be twenty in June,  
is tidy, is cross, is careless, is good-natured.

Girls are quiet, are timid, are sometimes jealous.  
That rose-bush is tall, is lovely, is green.

In each of these sentences, the Verb joins the  
describing words to the subject, so makes a  
statement, or sentence.

These describing words never express action.

### To be learnt - (large type) -

Verbs state what the Subject does.  
Dogs bark.

Verbs state what ~~the~~ is done to  
the Subject. Henry was whipped.

Verbs state what the Subject is.  
Charley is a little boy.

### Exercises

1. Underline the Verb which states what  
the Subject does in each of the following  
Sentences:-

The king took the child. He put it into a box.  
He

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He rode away. He came to a deep stream. He threw it into the current. The box, however, floated down the stream. Some kind spirit watched over it. No water reached the child. The box stopped at the dam of a mill. The miller soon saw it. He took a long pole. He drew it towards the shore. He thought there was gold inside. He opened it. He found a pretty little boy. The child smiled upon him merrily. The miller & his wife had no children. They treated the baby very kindly. They brought it up carefully. Every one admired it. Every one loved it.

- (2) Put a verb which states what the subject does into each of the following sentences:-
- About thirteen years— over their heads. The king  
— by accident to the mill. He — the miller is  
that was his son. He — "No." I — him when  
a babe in a box in the mill-dam." The king  
— "how long ago?" The miller —, "some thirteen  
years." The king —, "he is a fine fellow." If you  
— him to carry a letter to the queen. It  
— — — very much. I — — him two pieces  
of gold for his trouble." The miller — "As  
your Majesty —." Now the king — — that  
this was the child. He ~~had tried~~ to drown.  
He — a letter by him to the queen. "As  
soon as the bearer of this —, a man — — him."  
The young man — out with this letter. He — his  
way. He — to a dark wood. He — a light at a  
distance. He — his course towards it. He  
— . It — from a little cottage.

3. What <sup>each</sup> do the verbs ~~underlined~~ <sup>underline</sup> state about the subject?

the subject!  
She was turned into an ass. They were  
married & lived happy ever after.

married & lived happily  
Their pretty lips ~~with~~ were besmeared with  
blackberries. His barons were gored.

blackberries. His  
 His foods were consumed. He was brought  
 to want is misery. Man-like primrose  
 in need in you

are seen. The shot was not lost.  
It will be turned into a tiger. The job was  
finished at last. All the things were laid  
on the table:

4. Underline the verbs in the following sentences. What do they state about the subjects of the sentences?

<sup>of the sentences.</sup>  
She was changed into a fairy. You see,  
<sup>the</sup> ~~she~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~changed~~ <sup>into</sup> ~~a~~ <sup>fairy</sup>. ~~You see,~~

He was changed ~~shipped to make him~~ a letter boy. He was  
saved all the trouble. The work was finished  
The second was done

5. What does ~~each~~ <sup>the</sup> verb in the following sentences state about the subject?

My shape is most-elegant. You are perfectly handsome. My coat is quite homely & plain. Nobody ever is angry with me. I am a useful & innocent-  
-be



bee. The sheets are fine and thin. You are witty. You are wise. Her coat is so warm. I am gentle & good.

Every little stream is bright.  
All the orchard trees are white.  
I was once a mother's pride.

6. Put a verb which states what the subject is into each of the following sentences:-

I - so thirsty. The cottage - quite empty.  
The wizard king - at home. The tree that bore the golden apples - ~~leafless~~ <sup>leafy</sup> <sup>night</sup>. The city fountain - dry. Shoes - three puzzling questions. The king ~~was~~ very wrath. You ~~are~~ just the man we want. Somebody - at the door. The spring - very deep. ~~He~~ <sup>It</sup> - too old to work. This king - very fond of money. If you - thirsty, get down yourself. ~~They~~ <sup>He</sup> got and got - too young last Christmas to walk alone.

7. Put the verbs in each of the following sentences into its right place in this table:-

What the Subject -			
	<u>does</u>	<u>is done to.</u>	<u>is.</u>
He	<u>lost</u>		has a horse.
She		<u>was forced</u>	to give up her horse.
The snail			<u>was</u> <sup>is</sup> proud of her.

You are old, Father William. He told her - He had been enchanted by a malicious fairy - The fairy had changed him into a frog - A young Princess went into a wood - She sat down by a cool spring - She had a golden ball in her hand - She tossed it into the air - The ball bounded away - It fell into the spring - A frog put its head out of the water - It asked her - Why she wept - She said - My golden ball has fallen into the spring - The frog said - If you will love me - If you will let ~~me live with you~~ ~~if you will let me eat from your golden~~ I will get the ball - She promised - The frog dived for the ball - Something knocked faintly at the door next day - The princess was frightened - It was the frog - He wanted to come in - He said - I am tired - Carry me up stairs - Put me into your little bed - When it was night - He jumped up - He hopped down stairs - He went out of the house - The princess thought - He is gone - I shall be troubled with him no more - She was mistaken - The frog came the next night - He slept upon her pillow - She was astonished next morning - A handsome prince stood by